



## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AT2003/000163

## I. Basis of the report

## 1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:  
pages \_\_\_\_\_ 2-18 \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
pages \_\_\_\_\_ 1,1a \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_ 05 August 2004 (05.08.2004)
- ☒ the claims:  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
pages \_\_\_\_\_ 1-63 \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_ 05 August 2004 (05.08.2004)
- ☒ the drawings:  
pages \_\_\_\_\_ 1/10-10/10 \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language German which is:

- ☒ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

## 3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\*

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\* Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

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PCT/AT2003/000163

## III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application.

☒ claims Nos. 52-63

because:

☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. \_\_\_\_\_  
relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):

☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. \_\_\_\_\_  
are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ are so inadequately supported  
by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☒ no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. 52-63

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/03/00163

**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: BOX III

Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty,  
inventive step and industrial applicability

No international search report was established for claims  
52-63 because these claims relate to a different  
configuration which was not originally claimed.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PC T 03/00163

## V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

### 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-51	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-51	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-51	YES
	Claims		NO

### 2. Citations and explanations

Independent claim 1 relates to a shut-off fitting with a soft-packing shut-off element in several parts and capable of shutting off a flow channel, and with a base body fitted with sealing elements and having an outer dimension slightly smaller than a nominal width of the flow channel.

Document DE 1 093 634 shows this type of shut-off fitting; the subject matter of claim 1 differs therefrom by the characterising part of the claim, i.e. the specific design of the structures of the base body support surfaces as ribs that protrude over the surface and match structures on the sealing elements, so as to achieve a form-fit, as well as the arrangement of support disks to secure the sealing elements to the base body in a detachable manner.

This structure is unknown from the prior art and cannot be considered obvious because the documents in the proceedings do not give any hint of this structure to a person skilled in the art.

Consequently, the subject matter of claim 1 meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) and 33(3).

Claims 2-51 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.